MOULANA ABDUL HAY LUKHNOWI'S VIEW ON LOUD ZIKR

Moulana Abdul Hay Saheb Lukhnowi (rahmatullahi alaih) summarises Loud Zikr in the following way:

وروي البيهقي في كتاب شعب الإيمان عن سعد بن مالك مرفوعاً خير الذكر الخفي و خير الرزق ما يكفى وفي النهاية شرح الهداية المستحب عندنا في الأذكار الخفية الا ما تعلق باعلائه مقصود كالأذان والتلبية انتهى وصرّح كثير من الحنفية منهم صاحب الهداية ان الجهر بالذكر بدعة والأصل فيه الخفاء و الحاصل ان الجهر وان كان جائزاً لكن المفرط منه منهي عنه واسر افضل من الجهر الغير المفرط أيضا كيف والجهر المفرط يستلزم مفاسد منها أيقاظ النيام و منها شغل قلوب المصلين وهو يفضي الي سهر و منها ترك الخشوع عما ينبغي

الي غير ذالك من المفاسد التي لاتحصي و ان شئت زيادة التفصيل في هذا فارجع الي رسالتي سباحة الفكر بالجهر با لذكر انتهي (مجموعه فتاوي جلد2 ص302 طبع لكهنؤ)

(Imaam Baihaqi (rahmatullahi alaih) reports in his Kitaab "Sha`bul Imaan" from Hadhrat Sa`ad Bin Maalik (radhiAllaahu anhu) that Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: 'The best Zikr is that one which is recited softly and quietly and the best sustenance is that one which is sufficient.' It is reported in the commentary of Hidaya, "An-Nihaya", that it is Mustahab according to us (Hanafis) that Zikr be soft and quiet, except of course at those times when the Shariah desires it loud, like the Azaan and the Talbiyah of Hajj. Many Ahnaaf, amongst them the author of Hidaya, emphasies the point that to make Zikr in a loud voice is Bid`a. Zikr is actually meant to be soft. In conclusion, although Zikr in a loud voice is permissible, it is forbidden for it to be in excessive loudness. Soft Zikr is even better than a low pitch of loud Zikr. Why should it not be better since loud Zikr has many pitfalls. One of them is that it disturbs the sleeping persons, it also causes a disturbance in the concentration of those performing Salaat and makes them forget what they are reading and thirdly it is

opposed to sincerity and concentration. Besides these there are many other evils. If you wish to know more (about this subject) then refer to my Kitaab, "Sabaahatul Fikr Bil Jahr Biz Zikr"".) [Majmoo` Fataawa Vol.2, page 302 – Lukhnowi Print]

It is established from this text of Moulana Abdul Hay Lukhnowi (rahmatullahi alaih) that he is in no way in favour of loud Zikr. The Zikr that is being carried out nowadays through the loudspeakers, if this is not excessive Loud Zikr, then what else can it be? Moulana Saheb has also emphasised that soft Zikr is better than the (permissible form of) Loud Zikr. He has also outlined the numerous harms in excessive Loud Zikr, amongst them is the disturbance it causes to those performing Salaat. No level minded person can refute this fact that the Loud Zikr which is being carried out nowadays through the loudspeakers, not only cause disturbance to the people in the Musjid it self, but also to the surrounding areas and homes and it also disturbs the womenfolk at home who are reading their Salaat. People must now understand the viewpoint of Hadhrat Moulana Abdul Hay Lukhnowi Saheb (rahmatullahi alaih). He is being quoted out of context and misunderstood. May Allah Ta`ala grant us all the Tawfeeq and understanding to accept and follow the Haqq. Aameen

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